

Inspection of Little Stars After School Club

Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy, Henhurst Ridge, Burton-On-Trent DE13 9TQ

Inspection date:

18 July 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Not met (with actions)

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

The manager does not have effective processes in place to check the suitability of staff before they start working with children. There is no special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) who is responsible for supporting and meeting the needs of children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). In addition, the manager does not ensure that staff are appropriately trained in food safety. That said, most staff show clear understanding of how they ensure food is safe for children, which minimises the impact on children's safety.

Staff do not find out key information from the local school staff about the children who attend. This hinders children's continuity of care. That said, there are some positive relationships between the children and the staff. Children interact well with staff. They enjoy sharing books and being creative as they build houses together using blocks. Staff have a sound understanding of how to manage children's behaviour. This includes using positive reinforcements and a sensitive approach with children if they become upset. Children behave and follow staff's instructions well.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Recruitment procedures are not carried out robustly enough to ensure the suitability of staff. The manager has also not identified ways or processes to ensure that staff remain suitable while employed. These issues compromise children's welfare and places them at risk of harm.
- The manager does not complete supervisions with staff to monitor their overall performance and to identify where they require additional training or support. This has an impact on staff's ability to help raise the quality of the setting. That said, staff comment positively on how approachable and friendly their manager is.
- The manager has not appointed anyone to act as a SENCo. She recognises that some children who attend the setting have SEND. However, she has not taken enough action to help staff improve their knowledge and skills to help them meet children's individual needs or support their development.
- Some staff, who handle food, are not trained in food safety. However, they do obtain children's dietary requirements from parents, and demonstrate a sound knowledge of how to manage potential risks, including choking hazards, which minimises the impact on children's welfare.
- Children do not have a key person who takes overall responsibility for their care. That said, there are some positive relationships between children and staff. For example, staff respond sensitively to children if they become upset and encourage them to start to understand their emotions.

- Staff do not work well enough with the school staff to find out key information about some children in their care. This does not support the continuity of care for all children who attend the setting.
- Parents comment positively about the setting. They explain that their children love to attend. Staff gather information from parents about any dietary requirements or allergies children may have before they start. They also inform parents of key information, such as any accidents as they occur.
- Staff recognise and praise children's positive behaviours. They also manage any minor negative behaviours swiftly. Staff encourage children to think about how their actions may make others feel. In addition, staff celebrate a range of festivals and religions and use this to teach children about diversity. Children learn how to be considerate and to respect each other.
- Children's health is supported. For example, they are encouraged to wash their hands before meals, and to drink water to keep hydrated and stay safe in the sun. Children enjoy a range of balanced meals to eat. These experiences help children to understand and manage their own self-care and to learn the importance of living a healthy lifestyle.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The manager's understanding of safer recruitment is poor. She does not take adequate steps to ensure that staff are and remain suitable to work with children. Some staff's knowledge of safeguarding is limited. Although they recognise some types of abuse, such as female genital mutilation, their understanding of the 'Prevent' duty is poor. This has an impact on children's welfare and places them at risk of harm. That said, staff conduct risk assessments to ensure the environment is safe for children. They also ensure that children only leave the setting with those who are authorised to collect them.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
implement effective procedures to ensure that staff are and remain suitable to work with children	09/08/2022
introduce effective supervisions to monitor staff's overall performance and identify where they may require additional training or support	09/08/2022

appoint an appropriately trained special educational needs coordinator and ensure arrangements are in place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities	09/08/2022
ensure all children on the early years register have a key person, who is responsible for meeting their care and individual needs	09/08/2022
ensure all staff who handle food are appropriately trained in food safety	09/08/2022
improve partnership working with others to support the continuity of care for children	09/08/2022
improve staff's knowledge of safeguarding, particularly around their understanding of the 'Prevent' duty.	09/08/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2563256
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10232752
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	4 to 9
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Richardson, Kirsty
Registered person unique reference number	2563255
Telephone number	07487638083
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Stars After School Club registered in 2020. The setting employs two members of childcare staff, both of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. They open from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 3pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Chinyuku

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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